HERMAN & WHITEAKER, LLC

DONALD L. HERMAN, JR
GREGORY W. WHITEAKER
ROBIN E. TUTTLE†
CARRIE L. DEVIER††
CLARE C. LIEDQUIST
MOLLY O'CONOR

† Admitted in DC, SC and FL only †† Admitted in SC only

TEL 202-600-7272

FAX 202-706-6056
6720 B Rockledge Drive, Suite 150
Bethesda, MD 20817

June 6, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte, Transforming the 2.5 GHz Band, WT Docket No. 18-120

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, June 4, 2019, Charlie Cano and Analese Cano of Etex Communications, L.P. ("Etex"), and their counsel, Clare Liedquist and the undersigned with Herman & Whiteaker, LLC, met with Ebenezer Quaynor, John Schauble, Blaise Scinto, Christiaan Segura, Dana Shaffer, Nadja Sodos-Wallace and Nancy Zaczek² with the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission"). During the meeting, the parties discussed the importance of the *Transforming the 2.5 GHz Band* proceeding, particularly for rural providers such as Etex.

Mr. Cano described Etex's efforts to bring residents in East Texas broadband service, including making a substantial investment in deploying fiber to residents within its service area as well as acquiring the lease rights to licensed 2.5 GHz spectrum to provide a fixed wireless solution to residents living in hard to reach areas. Mr. Cano explained that spectrum in higher bands than 2.5 GHz do not work effectively given the trees and foliage in East Texas. The parties expressed frustration with national carriers that lease existing 2.5 GHz licenses but do not

¹ Via telephone.

² Via telephone.

Herman & Whiteaker, LLC Page 2 of 2

deploy services to the vast majority of geographic area covered by the licenses and suggested tougher performance requirements be imposed on any newly issued 2.5 GHz license. Lastly, the parties reiterated Etex's support for the local priority filing windows.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's Rules, we are filing this letter electronically in the above-captioned docket. Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

1000 X/2

Donald L. Herman, Jr. Clare C. Liedquist *Counsel to Etex*

Cc: Ebenezer Quaynor (via email)

John Schauble (via email)
Blaise Scinto (via email)
Christiaan Segura (via email)
Dana Shaffer (via email)
Nadja Sodos-Wallace (via email)

Nancy Zaczek (via email)